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www.scdhhs.gov
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## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

## <u>Public Notice of Proposed Action for Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) Nursing Facility Add-On</u>

The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS), pursuant to the requirements of Section 1902(a)(13)(A) of the Social Security Act, gives notice of the following proposed action regarding its methods and standards for setting payment rates for long term care facility services under the State Plan under Title XIX of the Social Security Act Medical Assistance Program (Medicaid).

Effective for non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) services provided on and after January 1, 2018, the SCDHHS moved the responsibility of the NEMT transports applicable to SC Medicaid nursing facility residents from the NEMT Broker to the SC Medicaid contracting nursing facilities. To implement this change, the SCDHHS determined a provider specific NEMT add-on to the October 1, 2017 nursing facility specific payment rate based upon calendar year 2016 trip and mileage data provided by the NEMT Broker and the use of mileage and transport rates developed by SCDHHS. Now that the SCDHHS has actual trip and cost data incurred by nursing facilities for the January 1, 2018 thru June 30, 2018 service period, the SCDHHS proposes to update the provider specific NEMT add-on effective for services provided on or after October 1, 2018 based upon the January 1, 2018 thru June 30, 2018 data.

The SCDHHS is proposing the above action in order to address the NEMT escort related industry concerns and to provide nursing facilities with adequate funding to cover the cost of the new NEMT transport requirement.

As a result of the proposed action relating to the Medicaid reimbursement methodology change for nursing facilities effective for services provided on or after October 1, 2018, the weighted average rate is projected to be \$182.62. The weighted average October 1, 2018 rate prior to the October 1, 2018 NEMT add-on update was \$181.77. This represents a weighted average per diem increase of \$.85 per patient day, or a .47% increase.

The SCDHHS projects that based upon the proposed action, annual aggregate Medicaid nursing facility expenditures will increase by approximately \$3,250,000 total dollars including Medicaid days paid while the resident is under the Hospice benefit.

Copies of this notice are available at each County South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Office and at www.scdhhs.gov for public review. Additional information concerning the proposed action is available upon request at the address cited below.

Written comments may be sent to the Division of Long Term Care Reimbursements, South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Post Office Box 8206, Columbia, South Carolina 29202-8206. Comments may also be submitted to <a href="mailto:comments@scdhhs.gov">comments@scdhhs.gov</a>. Written and e-mailed comments must be received by close of business September 27, 2018.

Any written comments submitted may be reviewed by the public at the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Reimbursement Methodology and Policy, 1801 Main Street, Room 1219, Columbia, South Carolina, Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M.

Joshua D. Baker
Director
South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

## **Notice of Non-Discrimination**

The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. SCDHHS does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

SCDHHS provides free aids and services to people with disabilities, such as qualified sign language interpreters and written information in other formats (large print, braille, audio, accessible electronic formats, other formats). We provide free language services to people whose primary language is not English, such as qualified interpreters and information written in other languages. If you need these services, contact Janet Bell, ADA and Civil Rights Official, by mail at: PO Box 8206, Columbia, SC 29202-8206; by phone at: 1-888-549-0820 (TTY: 1-888-842-3620); or by email at: civilrights@scdhhs.gov.

If you believe that SCDHHS has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, you can file a grievance with the Civil Rights Official using the contact information provided above. You can file a grievance in person or by mail or email. If you need help filing a grievance, we are available to help you.

You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights, electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at https://ocrportal. hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf or by mail or phone at: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 200 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 509F, HHH Building, Washington, D.C. 20201 or by phone at: 800-368-1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD). Complaint forms are available at http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html

## Language Services

If your primary language is not English, language assistance services are available to you, free of charge. Call: 1-888-549-0820 (TTY: 1-888-842-3620).

si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 1-888-549-0820 (TTY: 1-888-842-3620).

أذا كانت لغتك الاساسية غير اللغة الانكليزية فان خدمات المساعدات اللغوية متوفرة لك مجانا اتصل على الرقم:

0280-549-888 (رقم هاتف الصم والبكم 3620-848-888-1)

Se fala português, encontram-se disponíveis serviços linguísticos, grátis. Lique para 1-888-549- 0820 (TTY: 1-888-842-3620).

Если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните 1-888-549-0820 (телетайп: 1-888-842-3620).

Nếu bạn nói Tiếng Việt, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho bạn. Gọi số 1-888-549-0820 (TTY: 1-888-842-3620).

Se você fala português do Brasil, os serviços de assistência em sua lingua estão disponíveis para você de forma gratuita. Chame 1-888-549-0820 (TTY: 1-888-842-3620)

如果您使用繁體中文,您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電1-888-549-0820 (TTY: 1-888-842-3620)

Falam tawng thiam tu na si le tawng let nak asi mi 1-888-549-0820 (TTY: 1-888-842-3620) ah tang ka pek tul lo in na ko thei.

धयद आप हदी बोलते ह तो आपके िलए मुफ्त म भाषा सहायता सेवाएं उपलब्ध ह। 1-888-549-0820 (TTY: 1-888-842- 3620) पर कॉल कर।

한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. 1-888-549-0820 (TTY: 1-888-842-3620)번으로 전화해 주십시오.

Haka tawng thiam tu na si le tawng let asi mi 1-888-549-0820 (TTY: 1-888-842-3620) ah tang kapek tul lo in ko thei.

Si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le 888-549-0820 (ATS: 888-842-3620).

နမ္နါကတိၤ ကညီ ကျိ႒်အယိ, နမၤန္နါ ကျိ႒်အတါမၤစၢၤလၢ တလ႒်ဘူဉ်လၢ႒်စ္၊ နီတမံၤဘဉ်သ့န္နဉ်လီၤ. ကိႏ 888-549-0820 (TTY: 888-842-3620)

*ጣ*ስታወሻ: የሚናንሩት ቋንቋ ኣጣርኛ ከሆነ የትርጉም እርዳታ ድርጅቶች፣ በነጻ ሊያባዝዎት ተዘጋጀተዋል፡ ወደ ሚከተለው <u>ቁጥር ይደውሉ 1-888-549- 0820 (መስማት ለተሳናቸው: 1-888-842-3620)</u>

အကယ်၍ သင်သည် မြန်မာစကား ကို ပြောပါက၊ ဘာသာစကား အကူအညီ၊ အစမဲ့၊ သင့် င့်အတွက် သို့ ခေါ် ဆိုပါ။ စီစဉ်ဆောင်ရွက်ပေးပါမည်။ ဖုန်းနံပါတ်